

Serial No. 10/650,855  
Attorney Docket No. 2001P00790WOUS

Amendments To the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any cancelled claims at a later date.

1. (currently amended) A steam ~~Steam~~ line isolation valve for closing a steam line, particularly in a steam turbine system between a first expansion stage and at least one second expansion stage which is operated at lower pressure than the first expansion stage, characterized by a plurality of elements ~~which can jointly cover~~ covering the cross-section of the steam line, at least one of the elements is provided with one or more permanent recesses which do not extend over the entire thickness (d) of the elements.
2. (canceled)
3. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~ The steam line isolation valve according to Claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein the recesses-become deeper towards the edge of the element.
4. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~ The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 1, wherein the elements are matched to the cross-section of the steam line, or the cross-section of the steam line is matched to the elements or both the cross-section of the steam line and the elements are varied.
5. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~ The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 4, wherein at least one of the elements has a rounding.
6. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~ The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 1, wherein the elements have the same width (b).
7. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~ The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 1, wherein the elements have different dimensions for matching to the cross-section of the steam line.

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8. (currently amended) ~~Steam-~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 1, wherein the elements have the same moment of inertia  $\{I_y\}$  about an axis of rotation  $\{y\}$ .
9. (currently amended) ~~Steam-~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 1, wherein the elements of the steam line isolation valve ~~can~~ move independently of one another.
10. (currently amended) ~~Steam-~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 1, wherein a plurality of elements of the steam line isolation valve are connected to a common drive via a gear.
11. (currently amended) ~~Steam-~~A steam turbine system with at least one first expansion stage and at least one second expansion stage which is operated at lower pressure than the first expansion stage, of which there is at least one, and having at least one steam line for feeding the second expansion stage, characterized in that there is disposed in each of the steam lines, upstream of supply lines to the second expansion stage, a steam line isolation valve.
12. (canceled)
13. (currently amended) ~~Steam-~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 3, wherein the elements are matched to the cross-section of the steam line, or the cross-section of the steam line is matched to the elements, or both the cross-section of the steam line and the elements are varied.
14. (currently amended) ~~Steam-~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim-~~2~~ 1, wherein the elements have the same width b.
15. (currently amended) ~~Steam-~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 3, wherein the elements have the same width b.
16. (currently amended) ~~Steam-~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 4, wherein the elements have the same width b.

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17. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 5, wherein the elements have the same width b.
18. (canceled)
19. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 3, wherein the elements have different dimensions for matching to the cross-section of the steam line.
20. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 4, wherein the elements have different dimensions for matching to the cross-section of the steam line.
21. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 5, wherein the elements have different dimensions for matching to the cross-section of the steam line.
22. (canceled)
23. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 3, wherein the elements have the same moment of inertia  $I_y$  about an axis of rotation y.
24. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 4, wherein the elements have the same moment of inertia  $I_y$  about an axis of rotation y.
25. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 5, wherein the elements have the same moment of inertia  $I_y$  about an axis of rotation y.
26. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 6, wherein the elements have the same moment of inertia  $I_y$  about an axis of rotation y.
27. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 7, wherein the elements have the same moment of inertia  $I_y$  about an axis of rotation y.

28. (canceled)

29. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 3, wherein the elements of the steam line isolation valve can move independently of one another.

30. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 4, wherein the elements of the steam line isolation valve can move independently of one another.

31. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 5, wherein the elements of the steam line isolation valve can move independently of one another.

32. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 6, wherein the elements of the steam line isolation valve can move independently of one another.

33. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 7, wherein the elements of the steam line isolation valve can move independently of one another.

34. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 8, wherein the elements of the steam line isolation valve can move independently of one another.

35. (canceled)

36. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 3, wherein a plurality of elements of the steam line isolation valve are connected to a common drive via a gear.

37. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 4, wherein a plurality of elements of the steam line isolation valve are connected to a common drive via a gear.

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38. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 5, wherein a plurality of elements of the steam line isolation valve are connected to a common drive via a gear.

39. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 6, wherein a plurality of elements of the steam line isolation valve are connected to a common drive via a gear.

40. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 7, wherein a plurality of elements of the steam line isolation valve are connected to a common drive via a gear.

41. (currently amended) ~~Steam~~The steam line isolation valve according to Claim 8, wherein a plurality of elements of the steam line isolation valve are connected to a common drive via a gear.

42. (new) A steam line isolation valve for closing a steam line, particularly in a steam turbine system between a first expansion stage and at least one second expansion stage which is operated at lower pressure than the first expansion stage, comprising:  
a plurality of elements jointly covering the cross-section of the steam line; and  
a permanent recess provided in at least one element, the recesses does not extend over the entire thickness (d) of the element and become deeper towards the edge of the element.